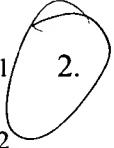


What is claimed is:

- 1 A method for facilitating the purchase of fractional lottery tickets using a point-of-sale terminal, comprising:
 - 3 determining a monetary value;
 - 4 selecting a ticket record that includes a set of ticket numbers;
 - 5 purchasing at least one lottery ticket based on the monetary value and the set of ticket numbers after the step of selecting; and
 - 7 outputting the ticket numbers and a fractional lottery ticket value that is based on the monetary value.

1  2. The method of claim 1, in which the step of determining a monetary value comprises:
determining a monetary value based on an amount of change due for a purchase.

1 3. The method of claim 1, in which the step of selecting comprises:
2 creating the ticket record.

1 4. The method of claim 1, in which the step of selecting comprises:
2 selecting a ticket record randomly.

1 5. The method of claim 1, further comprising:
2 receiving a signal indicating selected ticket numbers.

1 6. The method of claim 5, in which the step of selecting comprises:
2 searching a plurality of ticket records to select a ticket record that indicates the selected
3 ticket numbers.

1 7. The method of claim 1, further comprising:
2 increasing a total value amount of the selected ticket record in accordance with the
3 fractional lottery ticket value.

1 8. The method of claim 7, further comprising:
2 adjusting an amount to round up based on the increased total value amount.

1 9. The method of claim 1, in which the step of selecting comprises:
2 selecting a ticket record having an amount to round up at least as great as the fractional
3 lottery ticket value.

1 10. The method of claim 1, in which the step of selecting comprises:
2 determining a set of ticket records that each have an amount to round up at least as great
3 as the fractional lottery ticket value; and
4 selecting a ticket record from the set of ticket records which has a minimal amount to
5 round up.

1 11. A method for facilitating the purchase of fractional lottery tickets using a point-of-sale
2 terminal, comprising:

3 determining an amount of change due for a purchase;
4 determining a monetary value based on the amount of change due;
5 selecting a ticket record that includes a set of ticket numbers;
6 purchasing at least one lottery ticket based on the value and the set of ticket numbers after
7 the step of selecting; and
8 outputting the ticket numbers and a fractional lottery ticket value that is based on the
9 monetary value.

1 12. The method of claim 11, in which the step of determining a monetary value comprises:
2 rounding the amount of change due to a predetermined multiple, thereby generating a
3 rounded change amount; and
4 setting the monetary value equal to the rounded change amount.

1 13. The method of claim 12, in which the step of rounding the amount of change due
2 comprises:
3 rounding down the amount of change due to a predetermined multiple, thereby generating
4 a rounded-down change amount.

1 14. The method of claim 11, further comprising:
2 outputting an offer to exchange a fractional lottery ticket for change due.

1 15. A method for facilitating the purchase of fractional lottery tickets using a point-of-sale
2 terminal, comprising:

3 determining a monetary value;

4 selecting a ticket record that includes a set of ticket numbers;

5 purchasing at least one lottery ticket based on the value and the set of ticket numbers after

6 the step of selecting; and

7 outputting the ticket numbers and a fractional lottery ticket value that is based on the

8 monetary value;

9 determining a prize value of the at least one lottery ticket; and

10 providing a portion of the prize value based on the fractional lottery ticket value.

1 16. A method for facilitating the purchase of fractional lottery tickets using a point-of-sale

2 terminal, comprising:

3 determining a total value amount corresponding to a set of ticket numbers; and

4 acquiring at least one lottery ticket having the set of ticket numbers based on the total

5 value amount.

1 17. The method of claim 16, in which the step of acquiring is performed at predefined

2 periods.

1 18. The method of claim 16, in which the step of acquiring is performed at a predefined time

2 before a drawing.

1 19. The method of claim 16, further comprising:

2 determining an amount to round up based on the total value amount;

3 and in which the step of acquiring is performed when the amount to round up is below a
4 predetermined value.

1 20. An apparatus for facilitating the purchase of fractional lottery tickets using a point-of-sale
2 terminal, comprising:

3 a storage device; and

4 a processor connected to the storage device,

5 the storage device storing a program for controlling the processor; and

6 the processor operative with the program to:

7 determine a monetary value;

8 select a ticket record that includes a set of ticket numbers;

9 purchase at least one lottery ticket based on the monetary value and the set of

10 ticket numbers after the step of selecting; and

11 output the ticket numbers and a fractional lottery ticket value that is based on the

12 monetary value.

1 21. A computer readable medium encoded with processing instructions for implementing a
2 method for facilitating the purchase of fractional lottery tickets using a point-of-sale terminal, the
3 method comprising:

4 determining a monetary value;

5 selecting a ticket record that includes a set of ticket numbers;

6 purchasing at least one lottery ticket based on the monetary value and the set of ticket

7 numbers after the step of selecting; and

8 outputting the ticket numbers and a fractional lottery ticket value that is based on the
9 monetary value.

1 22. An apparatus for facilitating the purchase of fractional lottery tickets using a point-of-sale
2 terminal, comprising:
3 a storage device; and
4 a processor connected to the storage device,
5 the storage device storing a program for controlling the processor; and
6 the processor operative with the program to:
7 determine an amount of change due for a purchase;
8 determine a monetary value based on the amount of change due;
9 select a ticket record that includes a set of ticket numbers;
10 purchase at least one lottery ticket based on the value and the set of ticket
11 numbers after the step of selecting; and
12 output the ticket numbers and a fractional lottery ticket value that is based on the
13 monetary value.

1 23. A computer readable medium encoded with processing instructions for implementing a
2 method for facilitating the purchase of fractional lottery tickets using a point-of-sale terminal, the
3 method comprising:
4 determining an amount of change due for a purchase;
5 determining a monetary value based on the amount of change due;
6 selecting a ticket record that includes a set of ticket numbers;

7 purchasing at least one lottery ticket based on the value and the set of ticket numbers after
8 the step of selecting; and
9 outputting the ticket numbers and a fractional lottery ticket value that is based on the
10 monetary value.

1 24. An apparatus for facilitating the purchase of fractional lottery tickets using a point-of-sale
2 terminal, comprising:

3 a storage device; and

4 a processor connected to the storage device,

5 the storage device storing a program for controlling the processor; and

6 the processor operative with the program to:

7 determine a monetary value;

8 select a ticket record that includes a set of ticket numbers;

9 purchase at least one lottery ticket based on the value and the set of ticket
10 numbers after the step of selecting; and

11 output the ticket numbers and a fractional lottery ticket value that is based on the
12 monetary value;

13 determine a prize value of the at least one lottery ticket; and

14 provide a portion of the prize value based on the fractional lottery ticket value.

1 25. A computer readable medium encoded with processing instructions for implementing a
2 method for facilitating the purchase of fractional lottery tickets using a point-of-sale terminal, the
3 method comprising:

4 determining a monetary value;

5 selecting a ticket record that includes a set of ticket numbers;

6 purchasing at least one lottery ticket based on the value and the set of ticket numbers after

7 the step of selecting; and

8 outputting the ticket numbers and a fractional lottery ticket value that is based on the

9 monetary value;

10 determining a prize value of the at least one lottery ticket; and

11 providing a portion of the prize value based on the fractional lottery ticket value.

1 **26.** An apparatus for facilitating the purchase of fractional lottery tickets using a point-of-sale

2 terminal, comprising:

3 a storage device; and

4 a processor connected to the storage device,

5 the storage device storing a program for controlling the processor; and

6 the processor operative with the program to:

7 determine a total value amount corresponding to a set of ticket numbers; and

8 acquire at least one lottery ticket having the set of ticket numbers based on the

9 total value amount.

1 **27.** A computer readable medium encoded with processing instructions for implementing a

2 method for facilitating the purchase of fractional lottery tickets using a point-of-sale terminal,

3 comprising:

4 determining a total value amount corresponding to a set of ticket numbers; and

5 acquiring at least one lottery ticket having the set of ticket numbers based on the total
6 value amount.